(e) the extent to which the waiting lists are likely to be cleared?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The department has not worked out any five point strategy for expansion of telecom, network, however, approved Eighth Five Year Plan proposals (1992—97) envisage:—

— Addition of 75 lakh new telephone lines.

— Addition of 31200 telex lines.

— Provision of Gram Panchayat telephone to all Gram Panchayat villages by 1-4-1995.

— Public call offices for every 100 households in urban areas.

— Highway telephone on national highways.

— Provision of STD to all exchanges by 1-4-97.

— Value-added services like Cellular mobile, Voice-mail, Audio-conferencing & Video-conferencing to be provided mainly on the basis of franchise, subject to availability of resources.

(c) The Planning Commission has approved an outlay of Rs. 25137 crores for telecom sector including telecom services.

(d) The Eighth Plan proposals envisage Addition of 75 lakh new telephone connections.

(e) Targets set in this regard are:

— Provision of telephone connection practically on demand in rural and tribal areas.

— Waiting period for telephone connections not to exceed two years for larger telephone systems.

Poor functioning of Telecom Centre at Abohar

4230. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Telecom Centre at Abohar is working very badly due to very old Telex machine whereas even Private Telex Machines had been changed;

(b) whether it is also a fact that no FAX facility is being provided to this centre in spite of Abohar being a big trade and News Centre; and

(c) if so, what remedial steps are being taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir. It is working satisfactorily. However electromechanical telex machine in Telecom Centre at Abohar shall be changed soon by electronic machine.

(b) and (c) Case for providing FAX facility in Telecom Centre at Abohar is already under process.

एटा में खराब टेलीफोन सेवा

4231. **श्रीमती सत्या बहिन:** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि एटा जिले में टेलीफोन सेवाओं के खराब होने का मुख्य कारण वहां के दूरभाष केन्द्र में बहुत पुरानी मशीनें होना है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि एटा में लगायी गयी पुरानी मशीनें मोदी नगर में अस्वीकृत कर दी गई थीं और यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) एटा एक्सचेंज में पुरानी मशीनें लगाये जाने के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि मोदी नगर में लगायी गई मशीनों को वास्तव में